CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1.   A computer program product comprising a
computer useable medium having computer readable
program code means therein for providing a single
application programming interface, said computer
readable program code means in said computer program
product comprising:

computer readable program code means for
causing a computer to affect communicating
between a member of a process group of related
processes and another member of said process
group; and

computer readable program code means for
causing a computer to affect synchronizing said
related processes of said process group.

2.   The computer readable program code means in
said computer program product of claim 1, further
comprising computer readable program code means for
causing a computer to affect managing membership of
at least one of said process group and a processor
group of processors.

3.   The computer readable program code means in
said computer program product of claim 1, further
comprising computer readable program code means for
causing a computer to affect controlling a group
state value for said process group.

4.   A computer program product comprising a
computer useable medium having computer readable
program code means therein for providing a single
application programming interface, said computer
readable program code means in said computer program
product comprising:

        computer readable program code means for
        causing a computer to affect communicating
        between a member of a process group of related
        processes and another member of said process
        group;

        computer readable program code means for
        causing a computer to affect synchronizing said
        related processes of said process group;

        computer readable program code means for
        causing a computer to affect managing membership
        of said process group and a processor group of
        processors; and

        computer readable program code means for
        causing a computer to affect controlling a group
        state value for said process group.

5.   The computer readable program code means in
said computer program product of claim 4, further
comprising computer readable program code means for
causing a computer to affect monitoring, by a member
of said process group having no voting rights, one or
more aspects of said process group.